CYPERACEAE TRINITENSES NOVAE

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Rhynchospora ierensis C. Adams, sp. nov.

Herba perennis. Rhizoma torulosa breviter ramosa. Culmi plures dense caespitosi 12-40 cm alti filiformes compresso-trigoni costati glabri laevesque. Folia basalia caulinaque scapo fere dimidio breviora 0.5-0.8 mm lata basi plana medio canaliculata apice triquetra necnon scabridiuscula cetera glabra; vaginae truncatae striatae marginibus supernis hyalinis. Inflorescentia e corymbis 2-3-paucis culmo medio supernoque constructa; corymbus terminalis usque ad 2 cm altus et 3.5 cm latus decompositus paulo apertus radiis primariis circa 8 inaequalibus usque ad 2.5 cm longis; radii graciles bracteolis filiformibus vel setaceis basi membranaceis suffulti; corymbi laterales parviores compositi plerumque latiores quam longiores pedunculis filiformibus. Spiculae singulae binatae vel ad 8-10-nim fasciculatae ramorum primariorum extremitates collocatae in anthelae formantes 2-3 mm longae ovoideo-lanceolatae teretes acutae pedicellatae (ubi singulare) vel subsessiles curvatae 2-florae 1-nucigerae; glumae circa 6 imus brevissimae ovatae 1-nervatae muticae vel minute setuloso-mucronatae membranaceae marginibus latis hyalinis infuscatae striis patentibus rubro-brunneis; stamina 3; stylus profunde 2-fidus. Achenium circa 0.8 mm longum ubique 0.9 mm latum suborbiculare biconvexum breviter stipitatum grosse transverso-rugulosum porcis 4-6 minute verticali-lineolatis et marginibus crassis cinerascenti-flavum; rostrum valde depressum circa 0.1 mm altum 0.5 mm latum ad dimidium apicis extendens vix bilobatum minute apiculatum album vel cinerascens; setae nullae.

Trinidad. Erin Savanna, 11.viii.1977, Philcox & Ramcharan 8146 (holotype K; isotype TRIN 23229).

Additional collections:

Erin Savanna, 28.vii.1980, Alkins s.n. (BM, TRIN 24035); Icacos, road to the savanna, 28.ii.1866, Finlay ? (TRIN 1891).

Endemic to south-western Trinidad.

This species is distinguished from R. tenuis Link and R. emaciata (Nees) Boeckeler by the curved spikelets and smaller broader achenes with the beak strongly depressed.

Scleria orchardii C. Adams, sp. nov.

Herba perennis. Rhizoma brevis torulosa. Culmi approximati 70-100 cm alti prope basim 2-4 mm lati erecti triquetri glabri. Folia ad basim elaminata vel laminis redactis; vaginae laxiusculae ad 13 cm longae alis sursum divergentibus ad 4 mm latis marginibus minute antrorse scabridiusculis cetera glabrae; contraligula ovato-deltata circa 5 mm longa nervosa margine ciliato; foliorum laminae (8-)20-50 mm longae 10-18(-23) mm latae lineares post apicem (2-)7-12 cm abrupte angustatae et sursum gradatim decrescentes marginibus et costis abaxialibus non nisi prope apicem extremum antrorse scabridiusculis. Inflorescentiae 1-2, terminales et interdum e folii summi axilla ortae, terminalis 4-8 cm longa 3-5 cm lata composita lateralis breviora pyramidalis ramis rigidis patentibus rubro-purpureis bracteis foliaceis suffultis; rhachis principalis rami primarii ramulique acute angulati praeter interdum distales sparse scabridiusculi glabri haud passim puberuli; bracteolae setaceae ad basim longi-ciliatae. Spiculae spicatae vel racemosae; pistillatae circa 5 mm longae sessiles vel subsessiles, vulgo spicula staminata 3.5-4 mm longa pedicellata concomitata pare bracteola filiformi ad basim lata valde ciliata suffulta. Hypogynium trilobatum lobis circa 2 mm longis 3 mm latis circa dimidiis versus basim irregulariter fissis eburneum apicibus atrantibus. Achenium 4 mm longum 3 mm latum ovoideo-ellipsoideum exapiculatum laeve nitens ad apicem puncto albo basim azureo-lacticolor cetera atropurpureum.

Trinidad. Las Lapas Trace, off Arima-Blanchisseuse road, 21.ii.1981, Adams 14806 (holotype K; isotypes BM, TRIN 29929).

Additional collections:

Morne Bleu, 31.xii.1925, Williams s.n. (TRIN 11495); Las Lapas Trace, 6.ix.1973, Adams 13803 (TRIN 20848).

Endemic to the Northern Range of Trinidad.

This species is closest to S. latifolia Swartz. It is

distinguished by its ovoid-ellipsoid achenes, narrower leaves and differences of indumentum. The likelihood of its having arisen as a hybrid between that species and *S. melaleuca* Reichb. ex Schldl. & Cham. should be considered.

The name is given to commemorate Robert Orchard Williams, economic botanist, who served with the Government of Trinidad between 1916 and 1934, and was, with Professor E.E.Cheesman, responsible for the preparation of early parts of the Flora of Trinidad and Tobago.

Torulinium macrocephalum (Liebmann) C. B. Clarke var. **davidsei** C. Adams, var. nov.

Inflorescentia radiis primariis secundariisque evolutis. Spicae 2-5 cm longae lineares plerumque simplices racemosae bracteis secundariis foliosis subtentis. Spiculae 5-8(-10) mm longae; flosculi plerumque 4-8; glumae 2-2.5 longae.

Trinidad. 1 mile W of Blanchisseuse at Marian(n)e River crossing, 31.vii.1970, *Davidse 2477* (holotype MO).

Additional collections:

Diego Martin, Mahault, 26.viii.1916, *Broadway s.n.* (TRIN 8459); River Estate, 2.iii.1920, *Britton & Hazen 187* (K, NY); Bande de L'Est, Mayaro, *? Finlay in 1866* (TRIN 2085).

Typical *T. macrocephalum* has an inflorescence without evident rays, the spikes being congested into a usually solitary rounded compound head. Other varieties are radiate, *T. macrocephalum* var. *eggersii* having ovoid sessile spikes in clusters at the ends of primary rays and this new variety having linear peduncled spikes in short racemes.

The name of the new variety eponymises Dr. Gerrit Davidse, Curator, Missouri Botanical Garden.